

February 26, 2009

Co-chair Thomas Colapietro  
Co-chair Jim Shapiro  
Senator Kevin Witkos  
Representative Penny Bacchiochi

General Law Committee:

My name is Brent Coscia and I represent Consumers Petroleum of Trumbull Connecticut.

H.B. 6518 as much as I would like to support this bill it is not possible. This bill will raise the price of gasoline to motoring public.

Distributors are for banning the arbitrary discrimination when prices are set base on geographic location, but I cannot support this because it strips away the ability to be competitive going forward.

Section one mentions that prices will be required to be offered on equal terms and conditions. This is simply impossible, as no two dealers or locations are ever on equal terms and conditions and no investment that my company may make is ever equal.

Dealers want to pay investment on a cost per gallon (cpg) basis. It is easier for them to manage money, for example  $.01 \text{ cpg} \times 8000 = \$80 \times 11 = \$880.00$ . It is easier to pay \$80 than one large payment of \$880. We are responding to what the dealers, our customers, have repeatedly asked for. When they cannot get a bank loan who, can they turn to - distributors?

According to the logic of this bill - that would be exchanging one form of discrimination for another. I truly believe that you do not want to make the motoring public pay more for gasoline, but yet the unintended outcome of this bill will do just that.

No one can afford this type of outcome, so leave the ability to compete there for a dealer to do otherwise we as distributors will be forced to say no to locations that need improvements and in 2018, 30 years on tanks is coming the small business owners will have no where to turn for help and will be legislated out of business. I will be happy to answer any and all questions.

Thank you for your time.

Truly,

Brent Coscia  
Consumers Petroleum